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Kansas Botanical Notes, 1923-1928

A Summary of Papers 27, 1924; 2, 1925; 31, 1926, 9a, 1927; 10, 11; 1928

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Three buds at a node, instead of two, have been noted in box-elder (*Acer negundo*), red ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), green ash (*F. lanceolata*), sugar maple (*A. nigrum*), soft maple (*A. saccharinum*) and *Paulownia tomentosa*.

Twenty-six new megasporangiate cones on one new shoot were found on *Pinus mugo* mughus by Prof. W. E. Davis in 1923.

Three sets of megasporangiate cones on new shoots of jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*) were first seen in 1923 (*Bot. Gaz.*, 77:340-342. 1924.).

With open winters of 1922 and 1923, castor beans (*Ricinus communis*) and tomatoes have self-sown themselves and a few clumps of sudan grass remained alive over one winter.

A Japanese bamboo (*Arundinaria japonica*) at Manhattan is spreading from year to year, but its shoots have never been over 1.4 meters high.

Gametophytes of *Equisetum laevigatum* were well developed on muddy banks of the Kansas River at Manhattan in the fall of 1923.

Salvia splendens was a splendid frost plant in late Oct., 1923.

The separation layer was slow in forming or was very imperfectly developed in the falls of 1923, 1925, 1926.

In the cold spring of 1924, an unusually small crop of dandelions developed, but there was an enormous crop of seeds of soft maple (*Acer saccharum*), elm (*Ulmus americana*) and hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*).

Claytonia virginica was found in May 1924 in Ellsworth Co., by G. J. Ikenberry.

Three-winged fruits of green ash (*Fraxinus lanceolata*) were found in Manhattan by S. Fred Prince.

Perilla frutescens appears to be becoming an objectionable weed in Leavenworth Co.

Vivipary in *Bromus erectus* was noted by C. O. Johnston.

Aegilops cylindrica is assuming importance as a wheat field weed in south central Kansas.

Much late growth in the fall of 1925, including leafing out of a lilac in December and the swelling of buds of soft maple until seven groups with stamens fully exposed were found and great swelling in elms, maples and cottonwoods to the point of bursting but stopt by cold weather in the middle of December.

From the 106 seeds obtained from two tricotyledonous seedlings of tomato in the greenhouse at Manhattan by R. P. White, no or

only very poor plants were obtained, not one of which was tri-cotyledonous.

Bromus japonicus appears to be well established in the eastern part of the state under many conditions.

Fasciations were noted in dandelion and sweet potato in 1925, in *Hymenopappus corymbosus* in 1926, in *Ailanthus altissima* in 1927 and in *Asparagus officinalis* in 1928.

A great deal of fall growth and the bursting into bloom of shrubs took place in the fall of 1926, including as most noteworthy the flowering of *Iris pumila*.

Seven-year-old trees of Chinese Elm (*Ulmus pumila*) came into good bearing in the spring of 1927 at Manhattan.

A comparison of the work of A. S. Hitchcock and others previous to 1900 and of Pearl Maus in 1926-27 in Wabaunsee County, Kansas, brings out the interesting point that 112 additional plants are now recorded in the county, making the county list total 447. Subtracting those recorded in the counties on all sides previous to 1900, leaves 72 species. Of these 38 are introduced species (30 from open country and 8 from woods). Of the 34 new native plants, 5 have come in from the north (1 of which is a plant of woods); 5 plants of open country from the south; 5 plants of open country from the west; and 19 from the east, of which 8 are plants of open country and 11 are plants of wooded areas. Thus it appears that the western migration of eastern native plants is taking place more rapidly than the eastern extension of western plants.

Star-Thistle (*Centaurea picris* Pall.), a New Weed in Kansas

Abstract of Paper 19 of the 1922 Meeting at Manhattan

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This tufted perennial, about 40 cm. high, with involucre bracts with broad rounded scarious tips and whose margins break up more or less into fine hairs, short linear entire or remotely toothed leaves, a native of the Caspian region, was collected by J. W. Head in Washington county, during 1921. It may well become a serious weed.